



MILNE GROVE SCHOOL

Mrs. Gray, Superintendent

Mrs. Carlson, Principal

October 2010

Volume 6

Issue 2

From the Principal's Office

Welcome to the beautiful, yet unpredictable Fall season. With lower temperatures upon us, please remember to send your child to school with a coat/jacket, and do your best to have your child at school by 8:30.

Students are allowed to arrive at school at 8:20, and they enter the building at 8:30. The school day begins at 8:35. Your child is marked tardy if he/she arrives after 8:35. Being late to school not only affects your child but also can disrupt the whole class.

Chronic tardiness will also lead to truancy notices.

Please remember that the numbered parking spaces in our North and East parking lots are for staff members only. Please do not park in ANY of the numbered spaces, even if they are open. Our staff members are counting on those spots being available throughout the day.

Do you want to learn more about what is going on in your child's classroom? Visit his/her teacher's webpage at www.d91.net and

click on Teacher Webs located on the upper left side of the main page, or scroll down to the For Parents section and click on Teacher Web Pages.

We are still looking for volunteer crossing guards from 3:10 – 3:20. Please call the office if you can help us out. Thanks!

Mrs. Carlson



IMPORTANT DATES

October 8
11:30 Dismissal
School Improvement Day
No School - AM Kindergarten and Early Learners
PM K Attends 8:30 - 11:20

October 11
No School
Columbus Day

October 12
District 91 Academy
Kelvin Grove LRC 6:30
Board of Education
Meeting - KG LRC 7:30

October 13
EL Parent Workshop 6:00

October 18
Fire Safety Week

October 25
Red Ribbon Week

October 29
Report Cards Distributed
Halloween Parade 2:00

November 2
District RTI Meeting

November 4 & 5
Parent/Teacher
Conferences

Look Inside For:

- Classroom Happenings
- Art, P.E. and Music News
- LRC News
- Red Ribbon Week
- Halloween Information
- PTO Bulletin Board

DISTRICT 91 ACADEMY

We are looking for parents that are interested in joining our District 91 Academy. Topics of discussion include School Improvement, Discipline, and Response to Intervention. There will be three evening meetings throughout the year:

October 12, 2010
December 14, 2010
April 12, 2011

Please contact Principal Tracy Carlson at 815-838-0542 if you are interested in attending the academy meetings. We meet in Kelvin Grove's LRC at 6:30. The monthly Board of Education meetings will follow our academy meetings at 7:30.

Please join us for these too, if you have the time.



UPDATE YOUR CONNECT- ED INFORMATION

Lockport School District 91 has been utilizing the Connect-Ed system since 2008. This school-to-parent communication service allows our schools to send periodic personalized voice messages to parents and guardians via telephone

or e-mail. This system was used for our emergency early dismissal on September 30 and expedited the safe release of our students. If you were not contacted through the Connect-Ed system on that day, please notify Mrs. O'Brien at Kelvin

Grove School at 815-838-7470 ext. 104. Be sure to provide an emergency phone number where you can be reached during the day.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN...

EARLY LEARNERS

Upcoming Events:

Week of October 4 - The Early Learners will be introduced to the letter "V". The theme of the week will be vegetables. The Early Learners will try and grow their own vegetables and learn about the sequence of how things grow. They will also work with the number three.

Week of October 11 – The Early Learners will be introduced to the letter "I". The theme of the week will be insects and spiders. They will also work with the number four and the color black.

Week of October 18 – The Early Learners will be introduced to the letter "L".

The theme of the week will be leaves. The Early Learners will also work with the number five and the color brown. They will also try and create their own patterns with leaves.



Week of October 25 – The Early Learners will review the letter "F" and the theme of the week will be fire trucks. They will learn all about fire trucks and what is on them before trying to create their own fire truck in the classroom using big boxes and miscellaneous items. The Early Learners will also review numbers zero through five and the season of fall.

Dates to Remember:

Friday, October 8, NO SCHOOL, School Improvement Day
Monday, October 11, NO SCHOOL, Columbus Day
Tuesday, October 12, Field Trip to Konow's Corn Maze in Homer Glen, Illinois.
Wednesday, October 13, Parent Workshop from 6:00 - 7:00 at Milne Grove School. Early Learner Parents need to attend one of two parent workshops offered throughout the school year. Our next parent workshop will be in the spring.

KINDERGARTEN

In October, Kindergarten will learn to read the sight words the, like, and I and the color words orange, purple, black and white. Kindergarten will be participating in many alphabet theme days as we review the letters and sounds covered in Jolly Phonics. We will focus on correct letter formation. Please make sure your child is holding their pencil correctly and are starting letters at the top. Positional words will

be the focus in math and we will also be reviewing numbers, number formation, counting and matching numbers to sets.

The children will also learn about apples and John "Johnny Appleseed" Chapman during our apple unit. We will finish the month with a unit on spiders. Please continue to read every day with your child. We will be kicking

off the Book-It Program this month. When your child completes their monthly reading log they will earn a free personal pizza coupon for Pizza Hut! Remember to check the teacher's web pages for additional information and feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns.

FIRST GRADE

During the month of October, the first grade children will be learning about fire prevention. They will hear a presentation from the Lockport firefighters instructing them about fire safety. They will also hear a story in the library entitled, Stop, Drop and Roll by Margery Cuyler. Also during October,

first grade teachers will read the story Charlotte's Web by E.B. White. As we read the story, the students will participate in a variety of activities. Watch for information at the end of the month on a culminating home activity for Charlotte's Web.



In Language Arts this month the students will be introduced to the short vowel sounds. We will concentrate on the short a and i sounds. We will also be discovering word families and how they can be used to create new words. We will continue to discuss writing sen-

FIRST GRADE (cont.)

tences as a complete thought beginning with a capital letter and ending with an exclamation point, question mark or a period.

In our math program, first graders will be introduced to adding

“doubles”. A “double” math fact is adding two of the same numbers together, such as 1+1 and 5+5. Children will also be introduced to writing number sentences for “some, some more” and “some, went away” story

problems. In addition to these concepts we will be working on graphing, counting pennies, identifying shapes, and ordinal numbers.

The First Grade Team

SECOND GRADE

Math – This month we will be covering the following skills: writing number sentences for story problems; telling and showing time to the half hour; reading a thermometer to the nearest ten degrees; counting dimes and pennies; addition and subtraction fact families; and tallying and counting by fives. It is important to practice the addition facts at home daily.



Social Studies – To begin the month of October, we will be learning about

the explorer Christopher Columbus. We will then continue learning about communities and neighborhoods.

Science – We will begin the next Unit on Exploring Matter. Students will learn all about solids, liquids, and gases and how matter can change form.

Language Arts – To help your child practice their spelling words, you can have them write the words in chalk, markers, paint, or even shaving cream. Another way to practice would

be to make letter cards and have your child build the words.

The week of October 11th we will be having a review week. During this week we will not be having a weekly story. Students will be given a Theme Test which will cover skills we have taught in the previous five stories.

Continue checking your child’s folder daily for homework and any important notes.

THIRD GRADE

Third Graders are “falling” into a routine. Here are the skills we will be working on in October.

Reading: We will be reading the following genres: mystery, nonfiction, historical fiction, informational fictional, and fantasy.



Spelling: Please remember to have your child practice writing the spelling words on a nightly basis to prepare for the end of the week test.

Language Arts: We will work on the following skills: types of sentences, past/present tense verbs, contractions, and plural nouns.

Science: We will begin the unit on Forces that Shape the Land which will include landforms.

Social Studies: We will complete our Flat Stanley project and look forward to their return to Milne Grove. We will begin our study of Communities.

Math: Skills we will work on in Octo-

ber are fractions, reading/writing numbers to 1,000, writing money amounts, reading a thermometer, adding multiples of 10, estimating, measuring in centimeters, and ordering three digit numbers.

Please continue to check your child’s assignment notebook and sign each night. We look forward to seeing you at Parent Teacher Conferences. Please contact your child’s teacher if you have not set up a conference.

October’s Character Pillar: Trustworthiness

P.E. NEWS - Ms. Sharp

The classes are doing a soccer unit. They will practice the skills of dribbling, passing and shooting a goal. After that, they will do lead-up games and modified soccer games. They will also work with



bean bags, hula hoops, a fire safety game, Halloween games, and fitness activities. **Please continue to work on shoe tying.** Please make sure your child keeps a pair of P.E. shoes at school. They need to stay at school at all times. Lastly, if your child wears

dresses to school you may want her to wear shorts under it. We do a lot of things on the floor and use different equipment that may be a problem without shorts. Thank you.

News from the Art Room

Hi, I am Amy Siefken. I had the pleasure of working with your children last spring in the art room when Mrs. Cravens had her daughter. It is my privilege to work with them once again this fall until Mrs. Cravens returns in November.

I graduated with a degree in Art Education from Wheaton College. I have taught in the art room for 12 years, with students in grades Kindergarten through twelfth. I currently live in Naperville with my husband and our 2 sons. We have one son in 7th grade, and one is a freshman in high school.

I am passionate about the importance of art in school and have already had a great start with your students. I enjoy

helping students to stretch the right side of their brain and teaching them techniques and skills to develop their art ability.

Kindergarten students have studied the Russian artist Vassily Kandinsky and have compared how colors look different when they are next to each other. Look for cut paper owls outside of the Kindergarten classrooms.

1st grade students have studied line and have created beautiful stacked object line designs out of crayon and bright water color paint.

2nd grade students held an actual sand dollar and talked about how artists show movement in their work. Students cre-

ated beautiful sand dollar drawings out of chalk pastel and glitter.

3rd grade students have studied the French artist Claude Monet and his passion for painting outside in all seasons. Students have created two comparative landscape paintings representing two different seasons.

Look for the introduction of artist statements with the artwork. These writings give the viewer insight into what the artist was thinking, feeling, or wants to show with the artwork.

If you need to contact me please feel free to call me directly at 815-838-0542 extension 107 or via email at jcravens@d91.net.

FROM AMY BRODEUR - Differentiation Consultant

Welcome Fall! As the weather cools down our teaching heats up! Last month teachers were feverishly getting to know their students through activities and inventories which will eventually help them differentiate some lessons by interests. This means that although everyone will be learning and practicing the same skill, different student interest may come into play for means of motivation. Maybe they will read a book at their level on a favorite topic. Maybe they will practice sentence / paragraph writing about something that interests them. Perhaps some math word problems can focus

on a special subject that is meaningful to the student. This part of differentiation not only motivates the students' learning, but allows teachers to create personal relationships with the children. As Dr. James Comer once said "No significant learning occurs without a significant relationship."

Differentiation this month is taking on a new spin. Teachers are working hard to incorporate more pre-assessment into their lessons to get a snapshot idea of where kids are in their learning so that the lesson can be better "customized" to the student

needs. It is the next big step for differentiation – matching lessons to students rather than students to lessons. This is not an easy task and the teachers at Milne Grove are jumping in for the good of OUR students. Support them by asking your students every day to tell you something they learned or practiced in school that day. Don't take "Nothing" for an answer! Your conversation awakens an interest in your student as well. This is a GREAT district with WONDERFUL teachers and students. Let's celebrate!

THE LATEST FROM THE LRC - Mrs. Tumino

Library News

It's been great to see how excited all the kids are to be checking out books again! Some of their favorite selections are celebrity and kid-friendly cookbooks (like Hannah Montana, Camp Rock, Paula Deen, etc.) and anything from the Diary of a Wimpy Kid series. Dogs, sharks, snakes and world record books are some more popular non-fiction topics, and our student-authored books are also a very hot commodity. This month we will read about fire prevention and Halloween, as well as many other topics the kids are covering in class.

Although the majority of kids are returning their books on time, we have more kids than usual forgetting on library day. PLEASE help us teach your children responsibility by making them take charge of their own library books. However, at the same time, they do still need our guidance to help them as they learn. Their teachers remind them several times the day before, but many of the kids need additional prompting from you as well. Perhaps you could mark Library Day on your calendar, or post a reminder on the fridge? It is on the

same day every week.

Computer Lab News

In the computer lab we started the year by going over our Cool Tools – the expectations for proper behavior in the lab - and went over many “need to know” topics including how to stop the spread of germs in the lab. All classes have since moved on to a variety of activities, both online and via school software.

Kindergarten and First Grade have delved into the Starfall website by doing a variety of reading and pre-reading activities which are also a lot of fun. Second Graders have practiced their spelling words on the Spelling City website and also explored the Funbrain and Harcourt Trophies Reading sites. Third Graders have practiced keyboarding skills on our Type to Learn Jr. software, started writing in Word, and also checked out some websites for vocabulary work and more.

Please be sure to visit the MG LRC page on the District website, www.d91.net for library and lab info and for links to the websites we use at school. Just click on the globe at the top of the page! You should also take

a look at the KG LRC page (Cyberlibrary).

Volunteer Corner

We started the year off great with several wonderful parent and community volunteers. Claudia Zekas has already helped with several library tasks, as has my son, Adam Tumino. Carmen Mancera has been in already to help put away books. In addition, some fantastic kindergarten parents and grandparents joined their child's classes for the first few weeks of Library to help the children choose their books without rearranging the whole place. I send my sincere thanks to Julie Dahlberg, Katie Schuldt, Beth Ervin, Tabitha Bain, Kerri Kristoff, Jennifer Beske, Gloria Gory, Jane Passaglia, Anita Kube, Stephanie Langheld and Erin Gotts. Thanks, everyone!

Please let me know (815-838-0542, x122 or ltumino@d91.net) if you might have some time to help out – I'd love to have you!

NOTES FROM THE NURSE



It's that time of year again! We are busy making sure our health records meet the mandatory regulations for the State of Illinois. This is just a reminder that all Health Records must be completed no later than October 15, 2010. Letters

have been sent out informing you of any deficiency. The State of Illinois requires Health Records to be completed by the October deadline. The student's report card may be held or in some cases the child will not be allowed to attend school if the records are not completed. This regu-

lation is in place for the health and safety of all of our children, which is a top priority for District 91. Please be sure to check your child's school folder for this notice.

Mrs. Cast, BSN, RN

FROM THE LUNCHROOM

A reminder to parents and guardians that if your student is absent on a day they ordered hot lunch, the credit they have earned **must** be taken the next month. It is your responsibility to keep track of the

missed days and credits.

Please be sure to fill out the monthly lunch order form in it's entirety. Include, the student's first and last name, the teacher's name, and grade.

Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns at 815-838-0452.

Mrs. Sharlene Thomason
Lunch Coordinator



To Contact Mrs. Randolph K-8 Music & KG Chorus Director
 Email: srandolph@d91.net PHONE: 815-838-0737 ext. 140
 Web Page: www.d91.net select Music Dept. and then the heading you want

What an exciting start to the school year with our new Bright Link board in Milne Grove Music! We have been able to use it to help us see and understand not only visual colors and pictures, but many different Tone Colors (sounds) in music through Power Point presentations, the Internet, and videos. In September, Mrs. Randolph played the Flute (Woodwind Family), Cornet (Brass Family), Clarinet (Woodwind Family), Organ (Keyboard/Percussion Family), and students played Orff instruments (Percussion Family): Glockenspiel, Tone Bells, Xylophones, Metallophones, and drums. Our Music Theme this year is the National Music In Our Schools Theme - "Music Lasts A Lifetime". Students will continue to study different areas of music – to LAST A LIFE-

TIME.

During the month of October students will be learning about Major (happy sounding) and minor (mysterious, spooky, sad sounding) modes in music. We will "travel" to Germany to learn about JS Bach's Toccata & Fugue in d minor and Italy to learn about the Cantata (from Italian word cantare which means sung or singing - this musical work has singers and instruments). We will hear the "O Fortuna" from the Cantata Carmina Burana by Carl Orff. (A BIG THANK YOU to our D 91 PTO for providing the magazine subscription to "Music Express" so we can study this lesson!)

2nd & 3rd Grade REMINDER: you are responsible for doing 1 worksheet each

week in music to earn a sticker and the privilege to play the instruments. If you lose your worksheets, you don't get another; instead you will work during music class on the new worksheet covering the material while others play the instruments. Worksheet answers and help can be found at the top of each music page and on the school's web www.d91.net site under music department, and then select the school you want information on under music for help in answering music worksheets (ex. MG Music or KG Music). To see how your child is doing in music, ask him/her to bring home their music folder and check the sheets. Most of the sheets will be graded in class.

SAD NOTE : (from MUSIC

We missed YOU!!

ONLY ONE person from D91 Volunteered to help with the Music Technology Tag Day on Fri. Sept. 24! We did NOT earn any money for that day. What happened? Did you receive the newsletter with our request for Volunteers to raise money for the music lab? We still need money to purchase 5 electric pianos and computer monitors for Milne Grove + other music lab needs. I look forward to hearing from you from this newsletter.

PURCHASE a D91 AD in the D91 AD BOOK

(Sponsored by D91 Band & Chorus Parents-Ads due by Wed. October 27)

Purchase a PERSONAL/ FAMILY Advertisement for the souvenir ad book (10 word \$10 ad example: "Best Wishes in First Grade John Jones - Love, Mom & Dad) to go into the ad book. Pictures may be included for an additional fee. Ad Books will be given out at ALL D91 band & chorus concerts including the D91 Christmas Program presented by ALL students in grades Kindergarten through Fifth Grade and KG Chorus on Tues. Dec. 7 at 9:15 am and 1:15 pm in the Kelvin Grove old gym.

Ad PRICES – \$10 for 10 words, \$25 for 25 words, \$50 for business card size, \$75 half page, and \$100 full page.)

BUSINESS ADS: If you own a business or know of businesses willing to advertise in our Ad Book, give them one of

our ad book forms and return it to Mrs. Randolph by Oct. 27.

NOTE: KG Chorus parents continue to purchase equipment that is used not only for chorus, but also for every student in District 91. In past years, they have purchased choral risers for the Christmas and Spring Concerts, sound system for the music and chorus rooms, computer for music and chorus, electric piano, and many other things ALL of our students use. When you make a purchase from one of the Chorus/Band fund-raisers, you not only help those organizations, but also help ALL D91 students.

Winter MUSIC Calendar:

W. Oct. 6 - Chorus/Band Pizza Hut Fund-raiser

W. Oct. 27 - Ad Book Deadline (Place your personal or business ads with the Chorus/Band.) (Please see a Chorus

or Band Member or Mrs. Randolph to purchase an ad in our souvenir ad booklet. You and family/friends may purchase ads honoring your child (ren) wishing them best wishes in school AND contact places you do business with and ask them to purchase an ad.)

F. Oct. 22 & Sat. Oct. 23 – Chorus/Band TAG DAYS

Tuesday, December 7 – (9:15 am & 1:15 pm) - Students in grades K-5 and KG Chorus grades 5-8 will present the FREE Christmas Program "Jingle Bell Jukebox" in the Kelvin Grove School old gym. Watch for more details.

Thank you for sharing your wonderful children with me as we make MUSIC to LAST A LIFETIME!

The Music Students Need YOUR HELP! Clip and Return to Mrs. Randolph by Wed., October 13, 2010.

Thank you!

(ALL D91 Parents are needed to work.)

PLEASE check ALL you can help with:

_____ **YES! I can sew material for organ bench covers (school pays for materials)**

_____ **YES! I can build a small wooden box for instrument bars (school pays for materials)**

_____ **YES! I will help build sets & decorate for the Christmas program at KG (date and time according to your schedule)**

_____ **YES! I will help decorate for the Christmas program at KG Friday, December 3, 2010 sometime between 7:30 am through the day until 5:00 pm**

_____ **YES! I can help with the Music Valucard Fund-raiser in spring**

_____ **YES! I can help Mrs. Randolph with copying, filing during the school day on an occasional basis throughout the year**

_____ **YES! I can help work Music TAG DAY – Friday, May 13 or Friday May 14, 2011**

Student's Name _____

Grade _____ **Homeroom** _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature _____

Day Phone (if you can be called during day) _____

Evening Phone _____

Best Time to call _____

Email _____

Halloween at Milne Grove School



Our annual Halloween parade and classroom parties will be held on Friday, October 29 this year. The parade will begin at 2:00. Parents, grandparents, etc. are invited to stand outside on the back playground blacktop to view the short parade. The children will exit the school through the back, Southeast doors, parade around the blacktop, and then reenter the building through the back, Southwest entrance. You are welcome to take pictures/videos of your child during the parade. Once the children reenter the building, parents will leave and the children will go to their classrooms for their party. Due to limited classroom space, only designated room parents should attend the parties. If the weather does not cooperate for our parade, visitors

may go to the gym, and we will have the parade pass through for you to view. If this is the case, we will need all visitors to enter the gym through the back gym doors.

Please remember that weapons and look-a-like play/toy weapons are NOT allowed at Milne Grove and will not be permitted as part of a Halloween costume. This means no pirate swords, Star Wars light sabers, etc. We also do not allow costumes that promote violence or frighten other people. Please use discretion when choosing a costume.

Students may NOT wear their costumes to school or home from school. We will be working on the regular curriculum for most of the day, and we do not want the children distracted. Costumes

should be brought to school in their backpack or in another bag, if needed. This includes any type of Halloween makeup. Makeup should be minimal, and the students must be able to apply it themselves. Hair coloring is not allowed. Room parents will be available prior to the parade to help the children put on their costumes. We encourage parents to choose costumes that are easy for students to put on and take off by themselves. If you do not want your child to receive help from a volunteer, PLEASE send a costume that they can put on and take off themselves.

We wish everyone a fun and safe Halloween!

RED RIBBON WEEK

The annual celebration of National Red Ribbon Week starts October 25. National Red Ribbon Week serves as a tribute to special Drug Enforcement Administration Agent Enrique Camarena.

Red Ribbon Week is the most well-known drug prevention event in

America. During Red Ribbon Week, we will be organizing different activities to affirm our commitment to drug prevention and education. Such a commitment is part of building good character in our students, and therefore, it is a great opportunity for our school community to send a clear and unequivocal message that drugs

damage lives. Students will receive red ribbons and other items throughout the week. We will also have special daily announcements during Red Ribbon Week that tie in with the six pillars of character and drug prevention.

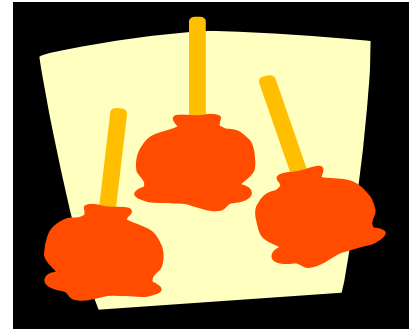
MISSION STATEMENT

We believe that ALL students can be successful in school. It is the mission of Milne-Kelvin Grove School District 91 to provide a supportive environment for learning in which students acquire knowledge and skills, develop a healthy self-image, demonstrate positive social behaviors, as well as acknowledge and respect ethnic and cultural diversity. We expect students to become life-long learners and productive citizens.

PTO BULLETIN BOARD

REMINDER!!

Dan's Taffy Apple and Hollingworth Toffee Orders are due on Wednesday, October 13th. Items will be sent home with the student on Thursday, October 28th.



DID YOU KNOW?

- Information about sex offenders can be found on <http://www.isp.state.il.us/sor/>
- You can view our District and School Report Card on the web. Visit www.d91.net, open up the *About District 91* link under "For Parents" and then click *Report Cards*.
- We have information to share that may help out someone who is homeless. Please contact Mrs. Carlson for more details at 815-838-0542 if you know anyone who is homeless.
- Milne Grove School takes part in the CHARACTER COUNTS! Program. Visit www.charactercounts.org for more details.

BIRTHDAY BOOKS



Does your child have a birthday coming up? The Milne Grove LRC has a Birthday Book Program that invites parents, friends or relatives to celebrate any MG student's special day by donating a book to the LRC. A bookplate

added to the front of the book will contain the student's name and birth date. Your student's contribution will be published in the monthly newsletter. The honored birthday student has the opportunity to be the first to check out his or her "birthday book."



VISIT US ON THE WEB!